

# Southern WV Safety Alert



Continuous miner operators continue to position themselves beside the continuous miner in a hazardous location resulting in substantial injuries or death. In one recent accident the continuous mining machine operator, while mining in the number 8 right crosscut, became pinned between the inby rib and the continuous mining machine. As he bent over to move the machine's cable, he contacted the remote control tram levers and caused the machine to move, pinning him against the rib. As the machine moved, it hit the emergency stop, which reduced the degree of injury to the operator.

## Preventive Practices:

- Develop a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for tramming remote-controlled continuous mining machines that ensures all persons are clear of the machine during its operation.
- Train the production crew in the SOP and ensure that it is followed.
- Ensure everyone is outside the machine turning radius before starting or moving the equipment.



U.S. Department of Labor  
Mine Safety and Health Administration